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✓ "THE OTHER MAN" ✓

✓ By

~~XXXXXX~~; Rex Taylor & Irma Whelpley Taylor; ✓
Picturized by Fred Buckley.

✓ Director; Paul Scardon ✓

Five Reel Drama

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Finding the worldly wife he adored in intrigue with a man of his acquaintance, John Stedman compels a divorce and remarriage, abandons his practice as a surgeon in Philadelphia, and disappears, in search of forgetfulness. The search ends at a lamp-post in the slums of New York; Stedman penniless, the remains of his fortune a grip and the unseasonable clothes he wears and the lamp post sole pivot of an unsteady world.

A saloon fight arouses him from terror. By saving the life of a valuable tough, he gains the good will of the political boss of the ward; who retains Stedman--under the name of Martin West--as his private doctor, always to be on hand in case of the hourly expected shooting. Regular practice, under a name which does not appear in the State medical license records is, of course, impossible.

The boss helps West in several ways; notably by helping him to overcome his post-divorce craving for drink.

But his influence is eclipsed when there arrives in the boarding house where West stays a new servant; who is really an heiress, Dorothy Harmon in the slums on a bet. She is to make her way there for two months. West becomes very friendly with her; and by the end of the appointed period, is in love with her; and she with him, thought he gives no sign. She has restored his ambition, however and one night, he tells her his story--all but his name. He is interrupted by news that the Boss has been shot.

Finding immediate operation necessary, he takes his reputation in his hands, improvises with the scalpel, and invents a new operation, which saves the boss 'life.

Returning to Dorothy--too excited to take up the thread of revelation where it broke--he tells her of this operation, and laments that he has not the ten thousand dollars that would enable him to regain his practice, introduce the operation, and gain his former position.

Dorothy meditated. Ten thousand is the stake in the bet she has won. She makes arrangements for its anonymous transfer to West, in the form of a peculiar charity. This is accomplished; and West goes to Philadelphia rejoicing; with a promise to return for "Deirdre Jones"---- to whom he has not yet proposed--when he has made good again.

Dorothy, of course, leaves the slums next day, and in her own home awaits news from West who was to write to her at the boarding house. She does not intend to appear in her true character until he ★ returns. No news from him arrives. This is because the keeper of the boarding house has lost Dorothy's address. The letters in which West, now Stedman again, and more successful than ever, tells her of his progress, pile up unopened on a kitchen shelf. At the end of three years, when Stedman comes to New York to claim Deirdre and pay back the ten thousand dollars, she is out of town, with her aunt. Stedman is dismayed to find that, with the loss of the address, he has lost all

touch with the girl. She, now knowing his real name searches for him in vain.

Shortly after this, Stedman, who has grown a professional beard and undergone all the changes of prosperity is called in to operate on Dorothy's aunt. He is constantly associated with Dorothy, and finds to his surprise, that she does not recognize him.

Realizing that she fooled him in the slum days, he resolves to take good natured advantage of his opportunity and fool her. As Dr. Stedman, he makes love to her, Dorothy, strangely attracted by him, and with the memory of the vanished Martin West dimmer in her mind, gives the surgeon a hesitating acceptance.

Now Stedman's former wife back from abroad, where her second husband died, desires to remarry Stedman. She follows him to the hotel where Dorothy, her aunt, and the doctor are staying, and prepares to carry on the siege. Fearful that she may injure his affair with Dorothy, Stedman tells her she must leave the hotel.

Unfortunate he is seen emerging by Dorothy; who has noticed that Stedman knows Mrs. Canfield.

Naturally, the engagement is off, Dorothy, departing secretly for New York and the slums again, leaves a note for Stedman; which is intercepted by Mrs. Canfield; who later shows it to Stedman, to convince him that Dorothy was playing with him all along.

Since the note announces that Dorothy has gone back to look for his other self--Martin West, it produces the opposite effect. Stedman leaves for New York at once.

Adopting his Martin West disguise, he returns to the boarding house where he meets Dorothy. He takes her at once--not giving--her a chance for explanation--to City Hall; where, by arrangement with his friend the Boss--Now an alderman performing marriages in the chapel--he obtains a service in which Christian names are conveniently numbled.

In their sitting room at the hotel, Dorothy is about to confess her identity when she sees a newspaper, flaming with the news of her marriage to Dr. John Stedman, the well-known specialist.

Looking at her husband with the eye of knowledge, she sees that it is so.

She has married both her lovers in one!

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